

# Snippets

Issue 81, August 2014



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi All –

Two standout activities for this period has been our Trip to Melbourne and the RNA Exhibition Judging. There will be photos attached, as well as the results for the Judging.

**Melbourne** – Thanks goodness we took our Queensland weather with us and did not need all the extra layers we packed. While boarding the plane back on Monday afternoon the wind and rain started. Viewing the news that night there were cyclonic winds and freezing rain, which continued for the next few days.

What a wonderful experience. Pauline and her group welcomed us with open arms and could not do enough for us. Suppliers bring their wares to their meetings for purchase – ceramics, pictures, egg supplies, etc. They also set up a fantastic display of their works – all different aspects of decoupage – having such a large group their work is diversified and they have a least four teachers in Melbourne and surrounding areas.

Also in attendance was Judith Madden, President of the New South Wales Guild who demonstrated her version of serviette decorated jute bags – these larger bags were impressive. It was the first time all three Guilds have been represented together.

The morning was taken up with the Christmas decoration workshop (where we all had a go and found out that we need not have taken all we thought we “might” need.



It is proposed that we will do a workshop at our October meeting.

The formal part of the day came next – this meeting was quite formal and kept to a minimum due to the full day planned.

Members provided lunch and the variety was impressive to say the least – for both main course and dessert – we did not need dinner that night.

In the afternoon Judith held a small workshop on the Jute bags, I gave a small talk on our Guild and its history, and then Barbara did a demonstration on paper beads. When Pauline visited us last year to Judge the RNA Show she was particularly taken by the beads and asked if Barbara could conduct a workshop. Barbara was her usual efficient self and had the audience intrigue and interested. It will be interesting to find out if any of the Victorian Guild members have a go – I think they will. Actually one of the ladies purchased a set Barbara had taken down to show a finished set.

This was definitely a worthwhile exercise and should be considered again in the future. Now we are “experienced” we would organize our “off” time a little better and work out what we would like to see before we leave – there always has to be a first time – “the explorers”!!! We did visit the Markets, around the city, a tram ride, Haig's Chocolates, Hopetoun Tea Rooms and a couple of the



## from our Secretary

beautiful old arcades. Leaving Melbourne in the middle of the day Monday did restrict our ventures for that day. Sharing an apartment in the city was a good way to go. Thanks to all for a great time.

**RNA "Ekka"** – There was a disappointing number of entries – 13 only for 4 Classes. We will lose a little of our sponsorship money. Entries came from Barbara, Sue, Jackie, Marion and myself, so we will all get our entry money back. Don't forget that the Guild will pay for 50% of the entry fee, if requested. Winners will be listed within this magazine. I will also take photos of individual entries but they will be published next issue. I would like to encourage all members to start now planning to have at least one entry for next year. We are very lucky to have an end cabinet allocated to Decoupage, but it has been mentioned that our entries are "down this year".

Thanks to Allan (scribe and display organizer) and Sally and Marilyn, our judges – they did an excellent job and spent a great of time considering and deciding – well done.



I must mention that Barbara's entry in the "Open" Division (and winner of the rosette) was beautifully done and her points were spectacular, and well deserved.

The next meeting is the AGM and all are invited to the Kedron Wavell RSL for lunch afterwards.

See you there.

DIANE LOXTON

Greetings All,

This seems to have been a very busy two months for me – first completing my entries for the Ekka and then planning for our trip to Melbourne – speaking of which I must say it was very inspirational and I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm for decoupage with others. It was a pleasure to put faces to the names I have read over the years in the ADG news letter.

Thank you Sue and Roger for opening your home for the JULY SOCIAL DAY. A special thanks to Roger who made a big pot of delicious soup to warm us on such a chilly day. Sue did comment that this was not meant to be a precedent and this is not expected of those hosting Social days in the future. We made a big glittery mess experimenting with gold leaf, and I trust all went home having learned something.

It was evident from this venture in applying GOLD LEAF, that it is not a suitable workshop to be attempted at the Library, and that it is practical for only a smallish group. For those who are interested I am happy to show 3 or 4 members at a time here at home. Before this can happen I will have to source some more gold leaf size – my supply is very old and running low. The gold leaf was kindly passed on to us from the Caloundra group which has now folded. The notes prepared from my experimentation will be posted on my blog which can be accessed from

the Guild website. Any further advice (or corrections) will be gladly received.

Response to EKKKA ENTRIES was a little disappointing, but many thanks to those who made the extra effort to make the display case appealing to the general public. NOW is the time to be planning pieces for 2015.

The meeting on AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup> is the AGM so please consider what you may be able to contribute to share the administrative load. Those taking on any position can be assured of help and support for any task required. Remember, it is YOUR Guild and can only be as strong as membership involvement allows. Following the meeting all are invited to gather at the nearby RSL for lunch.

The OCTOBER CRAFT SHOW (8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>) is fast approaching and once again we will need members to staff the stand and also goods such as CINDERELLA BOXES, SOAPS or SIMILAR to sell to cover costs. Names need to be submitted for the roster to allow free admission, so to this end I will be collecting names for a tentative roster at the upcoming meeting.

WORKSHOP AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup> will be working on CINDERELLA BOXES. Please bring appropriate materials such as GMV, COKE BOTTLES, SERVIETTES, BRUSHES, WATER CONTAINER etc. If you have not previously participated in this craft it is very easy and there will be coke bottles and serviettes available on the day.

Hope you can be there on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Barbara Chapple (DGQ Inc. Secretary)

#### RNA Exhibition Results – 2014

<u>Open</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> Barbara Chapple
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Diane Loxton
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sue Johnston
<u>Under Glass</u>	1st Sue Johnston
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Diane Loxton
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Barbara Chapple
<u>Wearable Art</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> Barbara Chapple
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sue Johnston
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Diane Loxton
<u>Novice</u>	Marion Reynolds
	Jackie Hinderwell



### **Member profile- Sue and Roger Johnston**

Roger and I began our interest in decoupage in the late 1970's. A group of people in Ballarat began with plaques and we joined them. We had our own "Ballarat Decoupage Group" which met regularly and as a group we participated in various craft shows around the district.

A Canadian acquaintance lent me an American booklet written by Marie Mitchell giving a guide to decoupage. The history of the craft and the quality of finished pieces, often from very basic or discarded objects, was the inspiration to us both and anyone who visits our home can testify to the enthusiasm we eventually applied to the craft. Marie was a member of the American Guild and had a teaching studio in the States. We wrote away to the USA and her husband Allan was most helpful in not only sending a copy of the book but also sent us other materials as well as a letter of authorisation that enabled us to legitimately teach her methods. Of course we had quite a lot of trial and error to find products that were available and suitable for

use in Australia and slowly we acquired more knowledge about the craft and what worked for us.

In 1983 a friend of ours was sent to Washington for his employment and he took a piece (a box) and organised it to be judged by a member of the American Guild. As a result of the successful judging of the piece, I became a member of that Guild. The judging panel was critical of a number of things that were not up to scratch, one of which was having externally exposed hinges, but even then were particularly impressed with the background colouring.

Soon after that our Ballarat group became aware that the Australian Guild had been formed and a couple of us joined that organisation. Elizabeth Cocks and myself were actively involved in the Guild at various stages, we both helped on the committee for the first book printed by the Guild and again helped with a committee that formed the Constitution. I remained a member until we moved to Queensland. During the 1990's my interest in the craft waned due to full time work – decoupage is very labour intensive and I couldn't spare the time it deserved.

In the early 2000's Roger and I moved to Toowoomba and we connected with the Queensland Guild. We both got a new lease of life craft-wise as we discovered all the new products on the market and the member's friendliness and willingness to share is absolutely wonderful. Although I had cleaned out my cupboards before moving we kept our paper collection as well as our resource books, something that is beyond price these days – and if we haven't got it – we'll have something that will do just as well – somewhere in the pile! Much of our work is a joint effort although we do work on separate pieces.



## To listen to your heart

Our world is loud, fast and chaotic.

We need time to pause.

To look around us.

To hear our heart.

It knows things your mind cannot understand.

Take time out.

Freeze frame your daily life.

Be open to your heart.

Listen to it.

*"The heart has its reasons, which reason knows nothing of"*

*Blaise Pascal*

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Today is yesterday's tomorrow!  
Don't Worry, Be Happy

## Below are Guild dates for 2014

Social Day details to be decided prior meeting.

Your suggestions appreciated to plan full programme. Think about next year!

- Sunday August 10 AGM Workshop/activity Cinderella boxes –
- EKKA August 8 - 17
- Sunday October 5 Meeting Workshop TBA
- Craft Fair October 8 - 12

Apology from the editor – as my computer went in for a health check 3 weeks ago it was discovered that my hard drive had a drastic error and needed to be sent to the hard drive hospital. (luckily still under warranty) as yet I have not heard if it can be repaired or I get a new harddrive. Due to this it had become very difficult to get Snippets out to you. I was unable to create the newsletter on my ipad and I managed to set the ipad up to receive emails but not able to send any out. I resorted to pull my very old laptop out of the archives and see if I could type the newsletter on it. It has taken me a week to get the laptop up and running properly hence the newsletter (Snippets) has been created. I apologise for the lateness and any errors you may find.

Ineke.

